

I made a cheesecake with Caleb and now we're waiting for it to bake.

This has to be the longest five minutes I've ever had to wait...



How does it compare to the last five minutes before school lets out, or the final five minutes of a meeting?



They're all equally torturous, but now we also have the tantalizing aroma making it worse.



What about you? What's your longest five minutes?



It depends.



Tap to close

What about you? What's your longest five minutes?



It depends.



Waiting for an elevator that stops at dozens of floors or staring at a message that won't load—

Those are both painfully long?



No, they are okay.



The only time waiting feels intolerable is when I'm about to see you.

Tap to close

While browsing a market, a stall owner recommends a kumquat tree to us.

I've heard that keeping kumquat trees at home makes your wishes come true.



How about we put two of those by your front door?



Are you sure that would be enough?



Remember our deal? With you on the ground and me in the sky, we'll conquer the world. For that, we'll need at least 200 trees.

Seriously? You might as well just buy an entire orchard...



Tap to close

Seriously? You might as well just buy an entire orchard...



I just wanted to hang some charms on the trees—you know, for safe travels and a smooth journey home. I want you to always come back to me safely.



I already have one reason to always make it back home safely, so let's not give the kumquat trees an extra job.



I wouldn't mind having one inside the house, though.



If I'm craving something sour, I can just pick them straight from the tree. Pretty convenient, actually.



While furniture shopping with Caleb, I noticed the aisle with cloud lamps was empty.

Are cloud lamps that unpopular in Skyhaven?



There are clouds everywhere in Skyhaven. People are probably sick of seeing them.



I see. So if you see something everywhere you look, you'd eventually hate it?



What about us? We're seeing each other every day.



Caleb pretends to be troubled and sighs, then copies my playful tone.



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Caleb pretends to be troubled and sighs, then copies my playful tone.



Sigh. I'm different. I don't hate the people and things I see often—I only grow to like them even more.



I guess we'll just have to keep seeing each other every day.

The Paper Plane Championship Tournament is about to begin. The participants? Caleb and me.

First, ground rules. No Evol, no interfering with your opponent, and no throwing the match.



Why do I feel like all three rules are targeting me?



Since you're suspicious of me, I'll go first.


Caleb gently taps the "head" of the paper plane.



Show me what you've got, Coreene.



Tap to close



Caleb gently taps the "head" of the paper plane.



Show me what you've got, Coreene.

...?



You named your plane after me?



Coreene the Hunter is amazing. I'm sure Coreene the Paper Plane will be just as good.



If you think I'm quite alright, feel free to name your paper plane after me. Just sayin'.

Tap to close

While I'm spacing out on the balcony, a paper crane flies in front of me and performs a perfect 360-degree spin.

I follow the paper crane out the door to find Caleb waiting downstairs.

I knew it was you.



The paper crane saw you daydreaming on the balcony and wanted to invite you out for a stroll.



So... where does this paper crane want to take me?



It will take you to where your heart wants to be.



I take a few steps closer to Caleb.

Tap to close

So... where does this paper crane want to take me?



It will take you to where your heart wants to be.

I take a few steps closer to Caleb.

I've reached my destination. Now, can the paper crane take me to where Caleb most wants to be?



The paper crane gently floats down and lands on my shoulder.



You won't need its help.



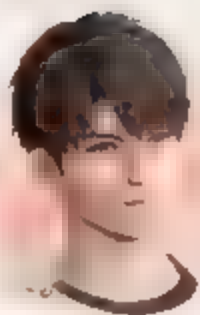
My destination is right here.

Tap to close

There are so many paper boats in the lake... Where do you think they'll drift to?



Caleb fidgets with the paper in his hands and spins a fanciful tale.



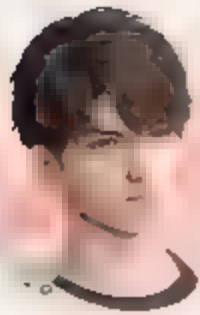
It depends on where they want to go. The ones that crave adventure will journey all the way from the lake to the sea.



Some want to reach land, so they wait for rainy days and drift into puddles on the ground.

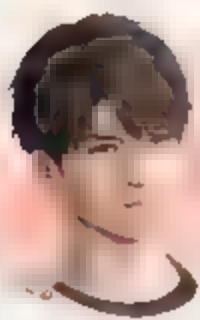


And if they want to reach the sky, they'd have to be placed in the lakes in Skyhaven.



Here you go. It's done.

He stops what he is doing and passes me a folded paper boat.



Maybe we should put two paper boats in the lake and send them on a voyage. What do you think?

Sure. I hope their journey is smooth sailing.

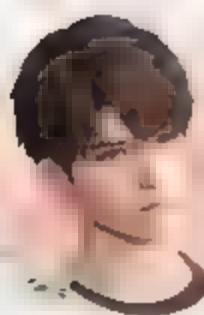


I need to add something.



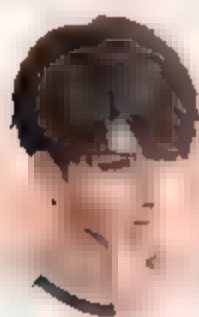
I hope that no matter how far they drift off course, they'll always find their way back to each other.

Unable to sleep, I step out of my room late at night only to find Caleb doing the same.



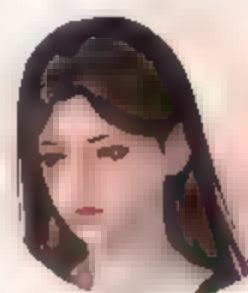
Can't sleep?

Look who's talking... Do you think we're being punished by that black tea we had at lunch?



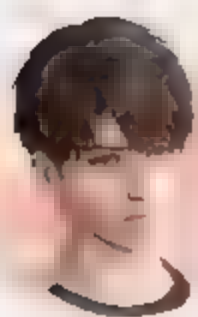
Yeah, that's totally possible. Maybe some milk will help?

Will that actually work?



It's hard to say, but at the very least it'll mix with the tea in our stomachs and turn into milk tea. We can trick our brains into thinking we're happy.

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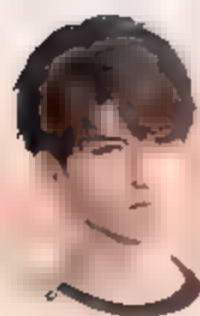


Who knows, maybe it will take pity on you and make you fall asleep sooner.

...How about some real solutions?



He taps on the tablet he picked up from the coffee table.



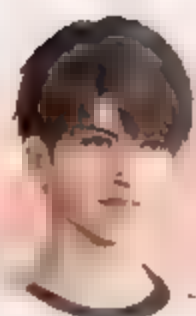
I was just about to find some white noise from aircrafts to listen to.
Want to join me?

Caleb and I have been playing a game called "Paper Cranes at Sunset" for half an hour now, and we still can't get past this level.

Why is this so hard?



Didn't you just say that the paper cranes are nothing to be worried about?



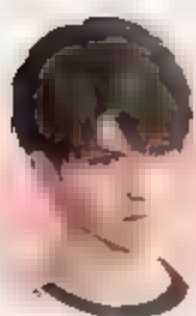
Why did you always move the paper crane to the other side before I could? That's why I kept missing my chance to score...



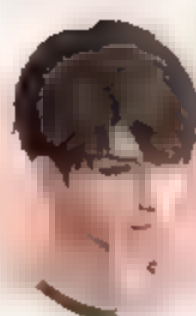
With the rapport we've built over all these years, shouldn't a mini game like this be a breeze for us?



With the rapport we've built over all these years, shouldn't a mini game like this be a breeze for us?



There is another possibility.



I'm anticipating your next move while you're anticipating mine.

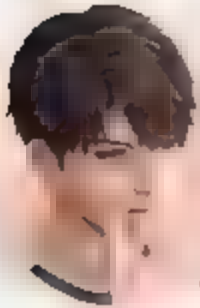


So, we're both one step ahead of each other.

Let's both slow down this time.



I'll try.

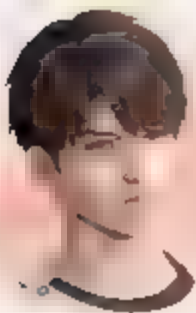


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Caleb takes an exaggerated deep breath.



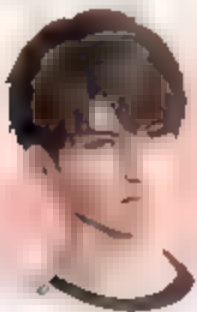
I didn't think that trying not to predict what you'll do would be the hardest part of this game.

I have candy in one hand and nothing in the other. Take your pick.



Left hand.

I open my left hand to reveal a piece of candy. Caleb immediately points to my right hand.



There's candy in your right hand too.

...Did your Gravity Evol turn into Vision Evol?



Nope. I just saw you take the candy earlier.

...Did your Gravity Evol turn into Vision Evol?

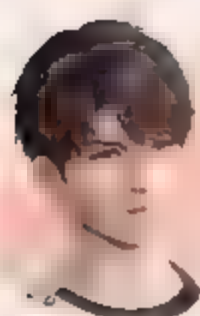


Nope. I just saw you take the candy earlier.

How could you expose the candy magician's secret? I'll have to confiscate this candy now.



I pretend to turn away, but Caleb pulls me into an embrace. His eyes squint as he smiles.



Well. Now I have to take a more proactive approach.



Even if I lose the candy, I'd say this hug I've managed to get is quite the consolation prize.

The airplane cookies Caleb and I baked together have finally come out of the oven, but two of them stuck together.

They remind me of something...



Birds of a feather?



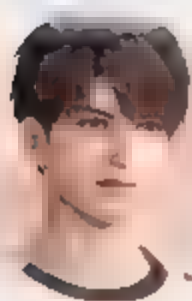
They must have hit some turbulence during their high-temperature flight, so these two planes decided to hold hands and brave the journey together.



And that's how they became inseparable forever.

Setting that aside, we now have a





And that's how they became inseparable forever.

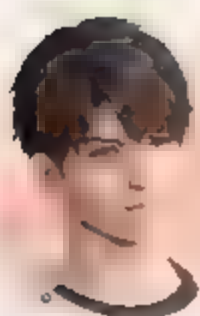
Setting that aside, we now have a problem.



Now this is the biggest piece of cookie in the batch.



Just as I'm about to reach for it, Caleb beats me to it, using his Evol to snatch the cookie away.



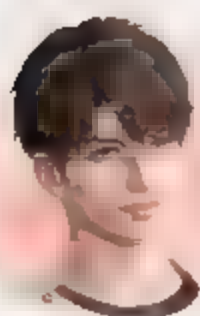
It must be delicious, right? Let me taste it for you.

Oh, I see what you were doing! "Birds of a feather," huh? Forget about that. You're ready to fly solo for a cookie!



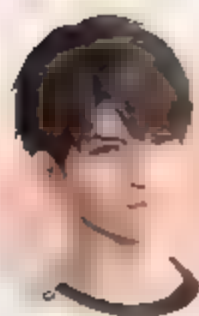
I come across a tutorial for green grape jelly balls on my phone, and without a second thought, I shove it in front of Caleb.

Caleb—



We have the ingredients at home.
We can make these.

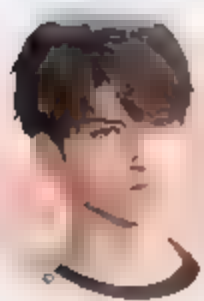
...I haven't even said anything yet.



I can tell what you're thinking just
from your tone of voice.



You could say it's a skill I've
developed over the years.

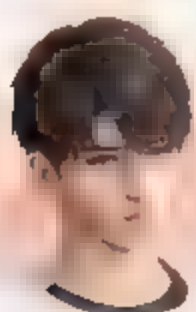


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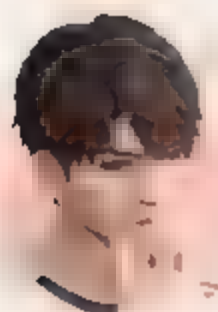


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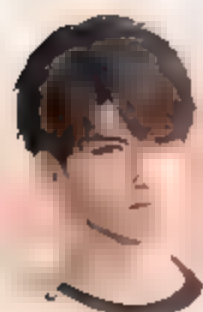
That kind of skill must be really useful. You can understand what people are thinking at work.



Yeah, but I can't be bothered to listen to my coworkers.



Most of what they say isn't important anyway, and besides—



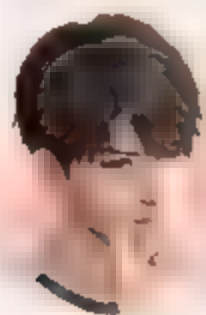
I only use this skill on people who actually matter to me.

I come across an amusing idea while scrolling through my feed and burst out laughing when I look over at Caleb hugging his Pilotblobbu plushie.

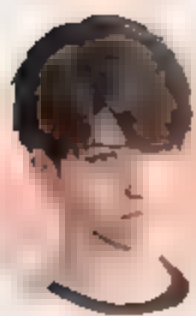


What is it?

Caleb leans over to see what's on my phone screen.



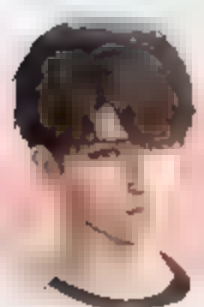
"What if you switched souls with something nearby..."



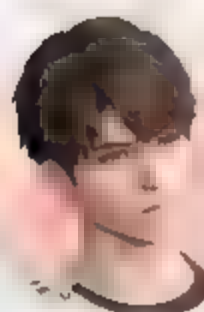
If I became this plushie, you'd probably squeeze the life out of me every day.



I'd have to find a way to hide in an orange grove, using all the oranges as camouflage.



It seems like I
probably squeeze the life out of me
every day.



I'd have to find a way to hide in an
orange grove, using all the oranges
as camouflage.

Hmm, you think that would stop me
from finding where you are?
Knowing you so well...



I'd just say, "If you don't come out,
I'll finish building all your model
airplanes and leave you with
nothing to work on."



Are you sure that would work? Or
would I just watch anxiously from
the sidelines until I'm spinning like a
propeller from frustration?

While watching a sci-fi movie with Caleb, I notice the spinning top in the film never stops rotating.

A whirring sound catches my attention. I turn to see a spinning top rotating on the coffee table.

Caleb, you're using your Evol, aren't you?



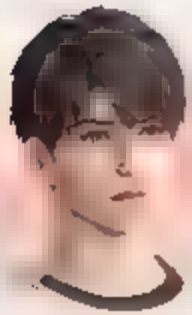
I knew you'd try to tease me with that. I'm not falling for it.



Anyone else seeing this would wonder if they're dreaming. Only you'd suspect I'm up to something.



Though if that movie were made today, the truth behind that trick might just be someone with gravity Evol messing around.



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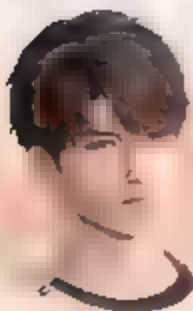


Though if that movie were made today, the truth behind that trick might just be someone with gravity Evol messing around.

Do they do it so they can lose themselves in a dream with the protagonist?



Maybe, but I think they just want the protagonist to know—



Our food just arrived. Should we take a break and eat while we watch?

While browsing a model airplane store with Caleb, I realized that many of the models looked strangely familiar.

Isn't this model aircraft an FY-26?



You recognize it even with a different paint job?

Of course, it's hard not to when all you do is talk about planes your entire life.




Besides, this was the aircraft you flew on your first test flight. Of course I know it inside out.




Didn't I ask you to explain its design, specifications, and operation modes






Didn't I ask you to explain its design, specifications, and operation modes in detail?




But you never asked about the other aircraft models I flew later. I thought you'd lost interest.

That's because you were always going on about how good it was to fly, so I started researching the specs online instead...



That's why?



In that case, feel free to ask me anything you want to know about planes from now on.

Tap to close



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I'll skip the explanations and give you the real experience instead. You'll get to feel it firsthand.

Tap to close

Deeply focused on my task report, I finally look up to find myself covered in paper flowers that Caleb has folded.



Finally finished?



If I hadn't, I might have turned into a flower bed.



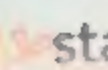
Can we say your hard work is "flourishing"?



At least I finished my report.
Someone, on the other hand, wasn't focused on their work at all...



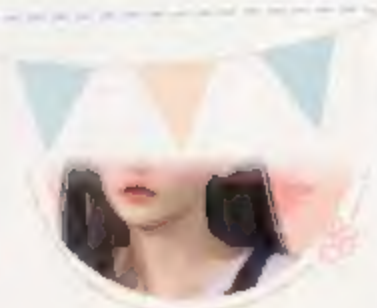
You're supposed to be reviewing the fleet's plans, but you haven't even started.



Tap to close



Someone, on the other hand, wasn't
focused on their work at all...



You're supposed to be reviewing the
fleet's plans, but you haven't even
started.



Look at these paper flowers. At least
I completed something.



You're so good at making excuses
for slacking off, but I'm going to
make sure you get some work done.
Come on, pull up your work screen.



Why do I feel like I'm being
monitored by the fleet's AI assistant?

Seeing him finally get to work, I snicker.
Now it's my turn to cover Caleb with little
flowers.